

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12579 240834Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /088 W
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R 240821Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9000
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS MANILA 12579

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEAN, EGEN
SUBJECT: US/ASEAN MINISTERIAL -- ROMULO'S DEPARTURE
STATEMENT

1. ALL MANILA ENGLISH DAILIES FRONTPAGED ROMULO'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE JULY 24 FOR THE UNITED STATES FOR THE SECOND US/ASEAN MEETING. DAILY EXPRESS USED PRESIDENT CARTER'S PARTICIPATION FOR THE LEAD UNDER SUB-HEADLINE "CARTER TO JOIN ASEAN-US TALKS". ROMULO'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT WASHNUOTED LIBERALLY, WITH THE BULLETIN TODAY PRINTING THE ENTIRE TEXT.

2. TEXT OF ROMULO'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:
BEGIN QUOTE: I AM LEAVING FOR THE UNITED STATES TO ATTEND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ASEAN-US DIALOGUE TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON 2-4 AUGUST 1978 IN MY DUAL CAPACITY AS LEADER OF THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION AND AS SPOKESMAN FOR ASEAN. SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE WILL LEAD THE UNITED STATES PANEL.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MANILA 12579 240834Z

- PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER IS SCHEDULED TO CONFER WITH THE LEADERS OF THE ASEAN DELEGATIONS SOMETIME DURING THE COURSE OF THE DIALOGUE. IN ADDITION, WE SHALL HOLD CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS OF THE UNITED STATES, BUSINESS EXECUTIVES AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.
- WE CONSIDER THESE ACTIVITIES AS MANIFESTATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES' RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ASEAN.

- IN THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AS WELL AS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES AFFECTING BOTH THE ASEAN AND THE UNITED STATES.
- THE FIRST DIALOGUE HELD IN MANILA LAST SEPTEMBER WAS PURELY EXPLORATORY. IN THE MEETING IN WASHINGTON, WE HOPE TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS, AFTER OPEN DISCUSSIONS, IN CERTAIN IMPORTANT AREAS OF COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH WOULD BENEFIT THE REGION'S LOW-INCOME GROUPS. THE AGREEMENT WHICH MAY EMERGE FROM THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD CONSTITUTE POSITIVE INITIAL STEPS TOWARDS LONG-RANGE COOPERATION BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE UNITED STATES. THE JOINT ACTIVITIES THAT BOTH SIDES DESIRE TO UNDERTAKE, BY THEIR VERY NATURE, REQUIRE CAREFUL DELIBERATION AND CLOSE CONSULTATIONS.
- THE MINISTERIAL MEETING WOULD FURTHER SERVE TO MAKE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC MORE AWARE OF ASEAN AND ITS VITAL ROLE IN IMPROVING AND STRENGTHENING ITS INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. IT IS IN THIS ATMOSPHERE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF EACH OTHER'S UNIQUE AND INHERENT FEATURES AND PECULIARITIES THAT ASEAN AND THE UNITED STATES HOPE TO BE ABLE TO WORK HARMONIOUSLY FOR THE COMMON GOOD AND WELFARE OF THEIR PEOPLES. THIS IS THE GUIDING SPIRIT OF THE SECOND ASEAN-US DIALOGUE. END QUOTE. MURPHY

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